

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 KINGST 03521 091539Z

73

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/097 W

----- 026285

R 091500Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8806

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINGSTON 3521

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, JM

SUBJECT: RICE QUOTA

REFERENCES: (A) STATE 201573; (B) KINGSTON 3159; (C) KINGSTON
A105

1. ON SEPTEMBER 5 COMOFF CALLED ON IMPORT/EXPORT OFFICIAL
OF MINISTRY OF MARKETING AND COMMERCE AND POINTED OUT
THAT UNDER GATT RULES JAMAICA, AS CONTRACTING PARTY TO
GATT, COULD TAKE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES TO REDRESS BALANCE
OF PAYMENTS POSITION PROVIDED IT FOLLOWED CERTAIN
PROCEDURES AND ADMINISTERED QUOTA IN A NON-DISCRIMANTORY
FASHION. COMOFF ADDED THA GOJ COMMITMENT OF ENTIRE
RICE QUOTA TO GUYANA WOULD APPEAR TO BE DISCRIMINATORY
AGAINST AMERICAN RICE EXPORTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KINGST 03521 091539Z

2. MINISTRY OFFICIAL REPLIED THAT HE BELIEVED THAT

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM, AND FOREIGN TRADE HAD NOTIFIED THE GATT IN THE PAST WHENEVER JAMAICA HAD PLANNED TO TAKE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES. CONCERNING ADMINISTRATION OF QUOTAS, HE EXPLAINED THAT GOJ COMMITMENT OF ENTIRE RICE QUOTA TO GUYANA STEMMED FROM AN EARLIER BILATERAL AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH JAMAICA WOULD GUARANTEE A MARKET FOR GUYANESE RICE PROVIDED THAT THE SUPPLY WAS SUFFICIENT TO MEET GUYANESE NEEDS FIRST, AND JAMAICAN NEEDS AFTERWARDS. HE SAID THAT JAMAICA WAS REGIONALLY COMMITTED TO IMPORTING FROM CARICOM SOURCES BEFORE CONSIDERING EXTRA-REGIONAL SUPPLIERS AND FLET OBLIGED TO HONOR BILATERAL AND REGIONAL AGREEMENTS BEFORE ITS INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS SUCH AS GATT. HE ADDED THAT THE 1975 RICE QUOTA RESTRICTION WAS NOT SPECIFICALLY AIMED AT THE U.S. AND COULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS DISCRIMINATORY SINCE IT AFFECTED OTHER SUPPLIERS AS WELL, SUCH AS COLUMBIA, TAIWAN, INDONESIA, ETC. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT U.S. SUPPLIERS WOULD BE THE MOST AFFECTED DUE TO THE FACT THAT THEIR MARKET SHARE IN THE PAST HAD BEEN ONE OF THE HIGHEST.

3. CONCERNING IMPORTATION OF SURINAMESE RICE, MINISTRY OFFICIAL INFORMED COMOFF THAT IT WAS CONSIDERED AS A RAW MATERIAL TO BE PROCESSED LOCALLY AND THEREFORE WOULD NOT FALL UNDER QUOTA FOR RICE.

4. COMOFF INQUIRED WHETHER LIMITED QUOTA FOR AMERICAN RICE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, SINCE IT WAS AMERICAN RICE IN 1973 WHICH MADE UP FOR THE SHORTFALL OF GUYANESE RICE PRODUCTION RESULTING FROM THAT COUNTRY'S CROP FAILURE. COMOFF POINTED OUT THAT JAMAICA MIGHT FIND IT USEFUL TO KEEP AMERICAN SUPPLY DOOR OPEN IN VIEW OF ANOTHER GUYANESE SHORTFALL. MINISTRY OFFICIAL REPLIED THAT GOJ HAD CONSIDERED A LIMITED QUOTA, BUT BELIEVED THAT JAMAICA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE WOULD BE PUT TO BETTER USE IF SPENT FOR OTHER MORE ESSENTIAL ITEMS/STAPLES (CORN BEEF, SOAP, ETC.) AND THEREBY PREVENT FUTURE SHORTAGES IN THESE AREAS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KINGST 03521 091539Z

5. ECONOFF WILL FOLLOW UP AT MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM, AND FOREIGN TRADE WHICH HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR GATT. GERARD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RICE, EXPORT QUOTAS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KINGST03521
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750312-0473
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750971/aaaacksa.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 201573, 75 KINGSTON 3159
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RICE QUOTA
TAGS: EAGR, JM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006